GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7256
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2002
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES FOR SCS/STS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate anyHousing Development Scheme for the persons belonging to Schedule Caste and Scheduled Tribe in order to provide houses to all the persons belonging to these communities within a definite period of five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any suggestions/requests in regard to the recommendations of the Drafting Committee of the Union Ministry of social Justice and Empowerment in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps so far taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BAN DATTATREYA)

(a)&(b): The Valmiki ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) launched by the Government of India duing 2001-2002 and Indira Awas Yojana launched during 1985-86 already cater to the construction/upgradation of shelter for urban/rural poor mainly SC/ST. There is a reservation of not less than 50% for SC/ST in VAMBAY.60% of IAY allocations are mainly for SC/ST/freed bondedlabourers since 1994-95. Prior to this, the entire allocation was for these categories. Moreover, the State sector social housing schemes funded by HUDCO also have reservation for SC/ST as per the policy of the State Government.

In view of this there is no proposal to launch another scheme exclusively for SC/ST.

(c)to(e): This Ministry has supported the suggestion of the Drafting Committee of Ministry of Social Justice &Empowerment on this subject viz. `A separate Awas Vikas Yojana should be formulated for Scheduled Castes and Scheduld Tribes with an objective to cover all the houseless among them within a period of 5 years`. Accordingly, a new scheme known as Valmiki ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) was launched by the Government of Indiaduring 2001-2002 for construction/upgradation of shelter for slum dwellers below the poverty line and of EWS categories in the urban areas with 50% central subsidy and a matching contribution by the State Government in the form of subsidy/loans. The scheme has a component for construction of community toilets also for the slum dwellers. All other things being equal, the following priorities shall prevail for distribution of houses under VAMBAY.

i.	SC/ST	- not less than 50%
ii.	Backward classes	- 30%
iii.	Other weaker section (OBC, BC etc. as defined in any particular State).	- 15%
iv.	Physically and mentally disabled & handicapped persons.	- 5%

Within this reservation, preference will be given to women headed households, urban poor who are members of self-help groups and persons eligible for old age pension as defined by the State Government.

If sufficient number of beneficiaries of a particular category are not available in a city or slum, the houses under VAMBAYmay be constructed for other categories after due certification by a competent authority to be designated by the State Government that

beneficiaries under a particular category are not available.